

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 EURE-00 SAJ-01 BIB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 IO-10

AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 CIEP-01 STR-01

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SAB-01 /109 W

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P R 281456Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7552

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 01430

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, GW

SUBJECT: FRG COMMENTS ON JANUARY 23-24 MEETING OF EC
POLITICAL DIRECTORS.

REF: A) DUBLIN 162; B) DUBLIN 175; C) DUBLIN 176

SUMMARY: IN BRIEFING EMBOFF ON RESULTS OF POLITICAL
DIRECTORS' MEETING, FON OFF REP, VON DER GABLENTZ,
CONCENTRATED ON CSCE, EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE, UN
CONSULTATIONS, AND FOLLOW-UP TO PARIS SUMMIT. HE
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EMPHASIZED INCONCLUSIVE NATURE OF DISCUSSIONS. END

SUMMARY.

1. CSCE. GABLENTZ ADDED LITTLE TO THE SUMMARY PROVIDED IN REFTEL A. WITH REGARD TO THE QUESTION OF AN INSTITUTIONAL FOLLOW-UP, HE SAID THAT THERE WAS STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE DANISH POSITION THAT NO ORGAN SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED FOR THIS PURPOSE BEFORE 1977, THUS ALLOWING TIME TO OBSERVE THE RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCE TAKING EFFECT. TWO CONSIDERATIONS UNDERLAY THIS PREFERENCE: FIRST, THE EUROPEANS FELT IT WOULD PUT THEM AT A DISADVANTAGE VIS A VIS THE EASTERN STATES AT THE PRESENT IMPERFECT STAGE OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION; SECOND, THEY FELT RATHER STRONGLY THAT RECENT EVENTS WHICH APPEARED TO CAST SOME DOUBT ON THE FUTURE OF DETENTE (GABLENTZ SAID THERE WAS A FAIRLY EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION OF THE USSR'S DENUNCIATION OF ITS TRADE AGREEMENT WITH THE US) ARGUED AGAINST THE RAPID ESTABLISHMENT OF INSTITUTIONS BASED ON PREMATURE ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT DETENTE.

2. EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE. GABLENTZ ASKED THAT WE TREAT WHAT HE SAID ON THIS SUBJECT WITH THE UTMOST DISCRETION. PLEASE REGARD IT AS NO FORN. GABLENTZ SAID THAT KENNAN'S MEETING WITH RIAD ON JANUARY 18 HAD PRODUCED SOME EVIDENCE THAT RIAD, AT LEAST, WAS ATTRACTED BY THE IDEA OF STARTING THE DIALOGUE AT THE EXPERT LEVEL SO LONG AS THE POLITICAL PROBLEM OF THE PLO'S PARTICIPATION IN THE GENERAL COMMITTEE COULD NOT BE SOLVED. RIAD HAD MADE CLEAR THAT HE WAS NOT SURE THAT HE COULD WIN THE SUPPORT OF ALL MEMBER STATES OF THE ARAB LEAGUE FOR THIS CONCEPT--HOWEVER, HE WAS WILLING TO TRY. HE ASKED, HOWEVER, THAT THE EUROPEANS PROVIDE THE ARABS WITH A CLEARER IDEA OF THE KIND OF PROJECTS THEY HAD IN MIND. THUS, AS INDICATED IN PARAGRAPHS 4-6 OF REFTEL B, THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE DECIDED THAT THE EUROPEAN COORDINATING GROUP FOR THE DIALOGUE SHOULD BEGIN TO DEVELOP IDEAS AND START FEEDING ARABS, PRESUMABLY THROUGH CONTACTS BETWEEN A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EC COMMISSION AND THE ARAB LEAGUE, WITH A STEADY FLOW OF INFORMATION. GABLENTZ SAID THAT THE EUROPEANS WOULD NOT BE WILLING TO SIT DOWN WITH THE ARABS, EVEN AT THE TECHNICAL LEVEL, UNTIL RIAD

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HAD SHOWN THAT HE HAD THE SUPPORT AT LEAST OF A MAJORITY OF MEMBER GOVERNMENTS OF THE LEAGUE FOR THIS CONCEPT. ONCE RIAD HAD THIS MANDATE HOWEVER, PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS COULD BEGIN. THE FORMAT FOR SUCH DISCUSSIONS, GABLENTZ THOUGHT, MIGHT BE ON THE ARAB SIDE: RIAD OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE CURRENTLY HOLDING THE PRESIDENCY OF THE ARAB LEAGUE, PLUS APPROPRIATE EXPERTS; ON THE EUROPEAN SIDE: ORTOLI

OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EC PRESIDENT, PLUS EXPERTS. A REPORT ON THIS CONCEPT IS TO BE MADE TO EC MINISTERS WHEN THEY MEET IN DUBLIN ON FEBRUARY 13.

3. UN CONSULTATIONS. GABLENTZ EMPHASIZED, JUST AS THE FOREIGN OFFICE'S DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS HAS FREQUENTLY DONE, THE FRG'S STRONG INTEREST IN ACHIEVING THE GREATEST POSSIBLE COORDINATION OF EC MEMBER VIEWS ON UN SUBJECTS AND ALSO IN A CLOSE AND CONTINUING DIALOGUE WITH THE US. THE EC OBJECTIVE, HE SAID, WAS TO WORK OUT A COMMON APPROACH TO THE

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FORTHCOMING GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHICH WOULD BE COORDINATED WITH THE US AND POSSIBLY ALSO WITHIN NATO.

4. RESULTS OF PARIS SUMMIT. GABLENTZ MENTIONED THAT A WORKING GROUP HAD BEEN SET UP TO DISCUSS THE MODALITIES FOR ANSWERING QUESTIONS ON POLITICAL SUBJECTS WHICH MIGHT BE PUT BY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT. IN THE ABSENCE OF A SECRETARIAT, THIS PRESENTED SOME AWKWARD PRACTICAL PROBLEMS, E.G. HOW TO DECIDE WHO WOULD
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PREPARE INITIAL DRAFTS, HOW THEY WOULD BE COORDINATED, ETC. THE BASIC PROBLEM HOWEVER WAS THE JUXTAPOSITION BETWEEN THE UNRESTRICTED INTEREST OF THE PARLIAMENT ON ALL QUESTIONS AFFECTING EUROPE AND THE VERY RESTRICTED SCOPE OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL COOPERATION. HOWEVER, GABLENTZ NOTED, THE PARIS SUMMIT HAD CALLED FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE AREA OF POLITICAL COOPERATION, AND THE INTERESTS OF THE PARLIAMENT, LOOKED AT IN A POSITIVE LIGHT, MIGHT PROVIDE A USEFUL STIMULUS.

5. GABLENTZ MENTIONED THAT IT WAS LIKELY ALTHOUGH NOT YET CERTAIN THAT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE WOULD BE HELD IN BRUSSELS ON MARCH 3, WHERE IT WOULD BE PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH PREPARING FOR THE MEETING IN DUBLIN ON MARCH 10 AND 11 OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL.
HILLENBRAND

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